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INDIANS AT WORK



AN EMERGENCY CONSERVATION
NEWS SHEET FOR OURSELVES

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

AT THE CLOSE OF EIGHT WEEKS

The Indian E. C. W. is winning. This means, among other things:

1. The Indians are seizing their opportunity; they are rushing into the work to the limit of camp and equipment possibilities. On August 18, 87 per cent of the total allowed quota of Indians was at work.
2. Through consultation between superintendents and their technical helpers, on the one hand, and the Indians, on the other, the work projects selected have, according to general testimony, met the views of the Indians themselves, while at the same time the technical quality of these projects is adequate. There were rough edges; there were some conflicts over the choice of projects. These have now, in the main, disappeared.
3. Indians are holding responsible positions on the projects and in the camps, to an extent never before realized in the history of the Indian Service. And the use of Indians in the leading capacities, based on their proved success, is increasing each week.
4. We had real fears, with respect to the camps and particularly to the family camps. We did not know what demoralizations might come about. We knew that bootleggers would besiege the camps. We knew that the long leisure hours might result in boredom and in the desertion of the camps; they might result in law-breaking. These fears have been completely dissipated.

I do not speak merely of the negative results. In the whole Indian country, embracing 110 reservations and all the camps, the Indian

Service employs just twenty liquor officers. We believe that we have received full reports from the camps. Just twenty-one cases of drunkenness have been reported from among the more than twelve thousand men; twenty-one man-work-days have been lost through drunkenness out of the more than two hundred thousand man-work-days. But - wait are we rejoicing too soon?

The positive fact is that the Indian camps are excelling in their physical attractiveness, and are proving to be centers of an intensified, joyful life, and of an educational influence reaching not only the Indian men but hundreds of members of their families.

5. We had feared that our regular agency personnel would find itself overwhelmed by the E. C. W. tasks and that either its regular or its emergency work would break down. But this personnel, helped by the project and camp managers supplied by E. C. W. has met the test; and the E. C. W. effort is reasonably integrated with the permanent everyday work of the superintendencies. This result means much, to those concerned with Indian administration. And incidentally, it testifies to the adaptability, resourcefulness and spirit of accommodation on the part of the E. C. W. men and the agency forces alike.

"On the whole" this means.

The Indian E. C. W. will not come to an end this fall. It will continue at least until May 1, 1934. I predict that the total expenditure of about ten million dollars will, before May 1, next, have added to the measurable capital value of the Indian lands not less than twenty million dollars.

Following the precedents of the Indian E. C. W. undertaking, this office and Secretary Ickes have planned an additional step toward Indian control of

Indian activity.

Buildings to cost \$2,800,000 are to be placed on Indian land through a grant of money from the Public Works fund.

Heretofore, Indian service buildings have usually been built through contract, with a predominant use of white labor and with little attention to the architectural and building traditions and skills of the Indians on the localities.

These future buildings are to be constructed by the Indians themselves. The best of architectural service has been retained. That service has undertaken to design structures which will fit the local landscape, which will use the local building materials, which will employ the Indians, and such other workers, preferably local, as may be needed, and which will strive to embody the spirit of the Indians in these Indian buildings.

The Indian tradition of home architecture, of utensils and of costume is extraordinarily rich and varied, and it has, throughout, a genius of simplicity. There ought to flower into expression a new architecture not only of school buildings and hospitals, but of homes, because numerous teachers' cottages are to be built. And incidentally, the expenditure of \$1,500,000 on day school plans on the reservations will bring a permanent saving of slightly above one million dollars a year to the government, through furnishing day school opportunity in place of boarding schools.

Simultaneously there has come a grant of four million dollars for Indian roads. These, like the reforestation projects and the new buildings, will be carried through with Indian labor to the maximum possible extent, and Indian management will be used to the top limit of efficiency.

It is our purpose, and we have stressed it with our field officials, not only to search for Indian talent of leadership, and Indian manual skill, but to

make a record of it when it is found, and to make a record of the achievement not only of groups of Indians but of individual Indians. This, to guide us in our future program of using more Indians in the permanent Indian Service; of extending special educational opportunity to Indians with special talent; and of bringing about an effective employment and vocational-placement work for Indians.

This editorial, whose language is unfortunately abstract and general, should now give way to the human, dramatic, concrete narratives from the field, only a few of which we can find space for in this second issue of "INDIANS AT WORK."

JOHN COLLIER

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

THOUSANDS OF INDIANS AT WORK

A Description of Emergency Conservation Work in the Northern Great Plains Area

By Claude C. Cornwall

Supervisor District II

It is not the purpose of this paper to tell the story of how Mr. Collier, our new Indian Commissioner, and his associates in the Indian Service perfected their plans for the great enterprise of Indian Emergency Conservation Work; of how they proceeded to draft the services of Dr. Jay B. Nash, community organizer, to direct this work; of how he and his associates toiled together to set up a scheme of camp organizations which would be peculiarly adapted to Indian culture and attitudes. It is rather the purpose of this paper to tell how this scheme is working out in that area of Western

America known as the Northern Great Plains, and designated as District II, over which the writer has been appointed in the capacity of Supervisor.

As Production Coordinating Officer for this area the Indian Office selected Mr. J. Donald Lamont, experienced district supervisor of Forestry; and he in turn set up offices in Billings, Montana, in the heart of this district and in the offices of that veteran forestry and grazing expert, Captain George M. Nyce, who together with William J. Keyes, Bassett C. Vaughn and T. C. White constitutes the pro-

duction supervisory staff of this area. District II comprises the Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming and for supervisory purposes and camp set-up most of Idaho and Utah - some twenty reservations in all, providing work for more than three thousand Indians.

Many thousands of acres of forests are included in these reservations. These forests have been set aside as timber resources for the Indians and for grazing areas on which Indian cattle and sheep may find their forage.

Work and Camps Alike Suited to Indian Needs

Indians are natural campers. Living, cooking and sleeping in the open are all part of their habits and culture. Many of them are experienced woodsmen, trail builders, firefighters. They know where to look for good water and how to protect their camps from the wind and rain and hot sunshine of mid-day. They know where to find forage for their horses and where to look for the wild game and berries and fish. There was no necessity to request the Army to assist the Indians in making their camp set-up. All they needed was a director of the camp, who could perhaps be one of their own number, to advise with them in the matters of camp detail, who would keep the working group functioning and would care for camp sanitation, the safe guarding of supplies and the orderly arrangement of camp routine. And so for each unit a camp manager has been appointed.

Like all American forests, they are in need of protection from fire and the devastating influences of destructive pests and over-grazing. It was for the conservation of these areas that Commissioner Collier pleaded when he asked for funds for Indian Emergency Relief. But it was essentially a larger undertaking than mere forest conservation or emergency relief for which the Commissioner was asking these funds, as we shall see when we view this program in a comprehensive perspective.

As to the work to be done, this was suggested and proposed by the Forestry and Irrigation departments of the Indian Service. But before any program was put into action, it was discussed and approved by those who were, after all, the most concerned - that is, the Tribal Councils.

Superintendents have been made responsible executives for the camps within their jurisdictions and the Indian forest supervisors and rangers have been appointed to outline the detail and superintend the completion of the various projects.

All this has given the projects a sort of "home town" atmosphere. Here are groups of Indians given opportunity to do things which they are anxious to have done, under financial aid by the Government, and under supervision largely of their own leaders. In other words, Emergency Conservation Work has given these Indians an opportunity to help themselves.

The Achievements Are Showing

At more than fifty locations in the Northern Great Plains Area are these

camps, commencing to take on a look of order and industry. New trails are

beginning to stretch for miles up the forested mountain sides, good smooth truck trails which will give easy access to fire; fences which will define grazing areas or which will mark reservation boundaries - good fences with strong posts and tight wire - are starting to stretch across grassy terrain; telephone lines with sound posts and copper covered steel wires are being laid to connect ranger stations

and look-out towers, to provide adequate means of communication for fire control; new bridges; cattle guard gates; water holes and dams; eradicated prairie dog colonies; spaces cleared of dead timber which would provide a fire menace; all these forest improvements are beginning to dot the countryside and to show that the Indians mean business and have started on their tasks in earnest.

The Family Camp Life Is Developing

Not only have the Indians demonstrated their ability to work. They are showing a keen understanding of valuable ways to occupy their spare time around the camps. In the Family Camps especially there are some interesting illustrations of this leisure time employment ability.

At Bull Elk Camp, on the top of the Big Horn Mountains in the Crow Reservation, is an excellent example. Due largely to the efforts of Mrs. May L. Dull, the younger women and children there (and in the evenings some of the men) are weaving baskets of native grasses and moulding clay vessels and heads, as leisure time fun. The favor-

ite sport of the men is arrow throwing, which they do with astonishing skill. The youngsters have a playground and wading pool and the evening camp fires are delightful social gatherings and opportunities for expression of the communal fellowship which is a characteristic of the Indian social life.

Associated with Mrs. Dull in the fostering of tribal arts and customs and the development of recreations, crafts and family association and the care of the children in the camp, are Miss Jessie Jumping Eagle and Miss Mylie Lawyer, two talented young Indian women who have been attached to the supervisory staff.

The Boarding Camps Have Many Activities

Leisure time activities in the Boarding Camps, particularly among the younger men, are taking on some of the aspects of a modern recreational camp. There are basketball games, volleyball,

horseshoes, and in some of the camps one is astonished to find the game of quoit tennis being played with a rhythmic skill ordinarily discovered only on ocean liners.

Each Camp Has Cause for Pride

If this were a detailed history, one might go on mentioning these camps one by one and outlining their individual features. For example, the Two Medicine Lake Camp on the Blackfoot Reservation, with its hundred tents

and teepees arranged in the traditional circle of the Sun Dance, or rather two circles - for so many came that a second circle had to be made around the original one. Here has been developed a bathing beach on the lake, fishing

holes for the youngsters, a community wash house and laundry and the Rostrum in the center where the Blackfoot Band gives its weekly concert and around which the crowd gathers for the evening entertainments after the day's work is done.

Or one might mention the Family Camp at Spring Creek on the Shoshone where the Arapahoes are encamped and where, according to Tribal tradition, all tents must face east.

Or one might mention Jocko A - 1 of the Flathead Reservation, with its enrollment of 171 men and its community singing around the camp fire to the accompaniment of banjo, violin and saxophone, and its intramural sports tournaments under the able leadership of Camp Superintendent Russel Kelley.

Or one might speak of the camp at

Crazy Head Springs in the Tongue River Reservation, with its unique root cellar in the moist shale rock, its swimming pool and its improvised punching bag, made from a seamless sack filled with sawdust, and its unique heater made from an oil drum and a piece of stovepipe.

And one might speak - but here this speaking must cease, unless every camp in the whole area is to be mentioned, because there is a just pride in the accomplishments of each, that kind of pride which is represented in the Council Fire Monument being erected at Rocky Boy Camp on Beaver Creek and the sign on the trail which says, "THIS ROAD BUILT BY INDIANS OF ROCKY BOY RESERVATION UNDER EMERGENCY CONSERVATION ACT 1933."

I.E.C.W. - For the Indians an Even Chance

But before this article ends there is still another important phase of this project which must be mentioned because of its outstanding importance. It is an emergency measure and it is providing an income for those Indians who, but for this project, would have been in need of aid and rations this winter. By their own election these Indian workers have decided to leave at least half of their earnings with their Agency Superintendents, this to be distributed to them in three checks, one each in January, February and March,

when the difficulty of securing food finds itself felt most acutely under ordinary conditions.

To the heads of many Indian families there has come with this project a certain pride in being able to sustain themselves by their own efforts. Indians do not want charity. All they want is a chance to earn their own keep. And this project is going a long way toward demonstrating the truth of this fundamental principle - that an Indian can make good if he is given an even break.

The cover design is one of those being considered for use as an insignia. Its symbolism is the thunderbird, with rain and the squash-blossom, the rising sun encircling all. The designer is Joseph Senel of New York.

INDIANS IN THE JOBS

Word continues to come in to a gratifying extent of Indians being appointed to responsible positions in the Indian Emergency Conservation Work program. The manner in which the appointees are fulfilling their duties is indicated in the following reports, selected from a representative number of such documents.

A letter from Mr. George A. Perera, Assistant Northern Pueblos. As for the purpose of the work in regard to giving Indians as much responsibility as possible, in allowing them to make decisions showing judgement and fairness to all, it is a complete success. All the foremen at the different pueblos are turning in reports of time and progress and showing remarkable ability in creating the right attitudes among the men, who are responding in an excellent manner. Cruz Simbolo, foreman at Picuris, says he is getting on with the men "as if they were all my brothers". Martin Vigil, lieutenant-governor and foreman at Tesuque, turned down a job in Navajo country at three times the pay in order to superintend work which he wanted to see well done. What better example that the Indian Emergency Conservation Work is a success!

Except for Mr. Paris, two surveyors, one engineer and myself, there are no other white men concerned with the work here; it is all being done by the Indians themselves; their problems they try to solve first alone, then they ask our approval or advice. Our supervision is slight.

The Indians are all eager to work, to work for their own community to fill positions of responsibility adequately, and they are more than happy for a chance to earn some money. Where there exists a surplus in the number of men, work is done by a system of rotation,

so that all are given the same opportunity to help. In such places the Indians understand why they cannot have steady jobs and are perfectly willing to give others equal chances.

Except, then, for a few very minor trouble the Indian Emergency Conservation Work in the Northern Pueblos is progressing favorably from all angles; and from every point of view we are highly in favor of its institution, reception and continuation.

At San Ildefonso the Indian foreman talked matters over with his men and decided that a two weeks' camp in the region of the fence-line would greatly accelerate the progress of the work. After getting his Superintendent's approval he set out to establish the camp by himself - and it is now functioning in perfect order under complete Indian management. An excellent example of how this conservation work is developing responsibility!

A letter from Dr. Nash about the Hopi. I am enclosing a list of the personnel set-up at Hopi Reservation. You will notice that all truck drivers, tractor drivers, machine operators, shop men, blacksmiths, and a large number on the water development are Indians. (Note. The list of Indians on this reservation also includes leaders, assistant leaders, property supervisors, property assistants and night watchmen. All rodent control work is in the hands of Indians.)

From the Weekly Progress Reports of Hoopa Valley. There are only five white persons connected with the camp, in important positions. All other positions, including mechanics, truck drivers and so forth are being held by Indians. Hostler Ridge Trail is being built by an Indian foreman, James Marshall, Jr., and Tishatang Trail is likewise being built by an Indian foreman, Stevenson Hostler. Our camp is modern in every sense and was built by Indian boys working under the direction of our manual training teacher, Mr. Walker. We have a modern wash house with hot and cold showers. The plumbing was done by an enrolled Indian who, though an expert, was out of employment. His name is Lewis W. George. He is a graduate of Carlyle.

From a Narrative Report from T. E. Perkins, Superintendent of Warm Springs. Our Indian group foremen have worked faithfully and are to be commended for their efforts and accomplishments. Mr. Kenneth Kautz, a part blood Indian belonging to this reservation, was employed temporarily as camp manager and entered on duty July 19. He is rendering satisfactory service - fully as good as the white camp managers.

From a Narrative Report from W. R. Centerwall, Superintendent of Tongue River Agency. We have developed an expert grader man from one of our Indian workers. This man showed a desire to learn and, as a consequence, our caterpillar driver, who is also a grader man, took him in charge and taught him enough about road work so that he is now as capable as the best of them. In the

future roadbuilding on this reservation, we will not have to look elsewhere for a man to handle our grader. At the camp on Busby Creek, Assistant Miller, a full-blood Southern Cheyenne Indian, is fitting into the work in an admirable manner.

From the Weekly Progress Reports of Makah Indian Agency. Since the resignation of our white camp manager, I have put one of the Indian boys in charge of quarters. The result has been that we have better order and the quarters are kept cleaner. Each day the shower rooms and toilets are scrubbed and thoroughly disinfected, as suggested by the sanitary engineer.

A Letter from Dr. Nash on Law Enforcement. At the time of the Ceremonials we are planning to have Navajo chapter representatives here with arm bands designating their authority to help us with the law enforcement situation.

From Chillico, Oklahoma. An Indian group foreman, William Kekohbah, sends the Office a highly interesting narrative report of the erosion control work which his group is doing. It contains a comprehensive picture of the various types of dams being built and is admirable in every way.

A Letter from Mr. Samuel H. Thompson, Supervisor Indian Education, About Pine Ridge. The camp manager at Allen Camp Number 3 is an Indian, Henry Cottier. He seems to be doing a very good job.

Swords to Ploughshares. I.E.O.W. utilizes what comes to hand and sometimes there is a touch of historic picturesqueness in the results. Now comes the word that the old lookout towers of Geronimo, last of the great Apache warriors, are being utilized by Apache conservation workers as fire towers, to protect Apache lands. Says the report, "Geronimo's lookouts are fire towers, his old water holes are developed springs, his old battle grounds are being preserved from erosion to serve as useful farms - all under the President's plan of Conservation."

THE INDIAN EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK PROGRAM IN FIGURES

From the following statements our readers will be able to grasp to a considerable extent just what the Indian Emergency Conservation Work program means in projects to be accomplished. To be sure, some agencies have not yet reported fully. The omissions are noted.

Blackfeet Agency

Men working - 205.

Projects: Truck trail - 29 miles.
Telephone Line - 33 miles. Roadside
clean-up - 600 acres. Fire lookout
houses - 1.

Carter Seminary

Men working - 6.

Projects: Erosion control - 24
acres.

Cherokee Agency

Men working - 93.

Projects: Truck trail - $56\frac{1}{2}$
miles. Telephone line - 12 miles.

Cheyenne and Arapaho Agency

Men working - 15.

Projects: Erosion control -
4,700 acres. Rodent control - 160
acres. Poisonous plant control -
2,800 acres.

Chippewee River Agency

Men working - 203.

Projects: Telephone line - 121
miles. Rodent control - 50,000 acres.
Dams - 35. Tanks, wells, springs - 5.

Chillicothe School

Men working - 34.

Projects: Erosion control - 2,000
acres.

Choctaw - Chickasaw Sanitarium

Men working - 51.

Projects: Forest stand improve-
ment - 1,920 acres.

Colville Agency

Men working - 418. (Includes
Spokane.)

Projects: Truck trails - 250 miles.
Telephone line - 187 miles.

Spokane Agency

Men working - See Colville.

Projects: Truck trail - 69 miles.
Telephone line - $43\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Fire look-
out houses - 2. Rodent control - acres
not reported. Tanks, wells, springs -
number not reported. Fire breaks - 6
miles. Lookout towers - 1. Fire haz-
ard reduction - 40 miles.

Consolidated Chippewa Agency

Men working - 170

Projects: Truck trail - 35 miles.
Telephone line - 60 miles. Fire look-

out houses - 2. Fire breaks - 2 miles.
Horse and man trails - 14 miles.
Bridges - 1. Forest and range cabins -
5. Clearing campsite - 300 acres. Im-
proved camp grounds - 4. Blister rust
control - acres not reported.

Consolidated Ute Agency

Men working - 104.

Projects: Truck trail - 33 miles.
Erosion control - 5,000 acres. Tanks,
wells, springs - 17. Horse and man
trails - $34\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Fencing - 28 miles.
Reservoirs - 4.

Crow Agency

Men working - 95.

Projects: Truck trail - 117 miles.
Telephone line - 26 miles. Rodent con-
trol - acres not reported. Forest and
range cabins - 3. Improved camp
grounds - number not reported. Fencing
- 12 miles. Ranger stations - 4.

Crow Creek Agency

Men working - 40.

Projects: Telephone line - 23
miles. Dams - 8.

Eastern Navajo Agency

Men working - 640

Projects: Truck trail - 275 miles.
Telephone line - 82 miles. Erosion
control - acres not reported. Rodent
control - 400,000 acres. Tanks, wells,
springs - 56. Forest and range cabins
- 2. Reservoirs - 35.

Eufala Boarding School

Men working - 11.

Projects: Erosion control - 40
acres.

Flathead Agency

Men working - 194.

Projects: Truck trail - 33 miles.
Fire lookout houses - 2. Rodent con-
trol - acres not reported. Horse and
man trails - 250 miles.

Fort Apache Agency

Men working - 475.

Projects - Truck trail - 362
miles. Telephone line - 246 miles.
Tanks, wells, springs - 47. Horse and
man trails - 71 miles. Fencing - 533
miles. Corrals - 8.

Ft. Belknap Agency

Men working - 156.

Projects: Truck trail - 76 miles.
Telephone line - 60 miles. Fire look-
out houses - 5. Clearing campsite -
acres not reported. Fencing - 55 miles.
Reservoirs - number not reported.

Ft. Berthold Agency

Men working - 133.

Projects: Telephone line - 47
miles. Rodent control - 3,000 acres.
Tanks, well, springs - 20. Fencing -
38 miles.

Ft. Hall Agency

Men working - 125.

Projects: Truck trail - 100
miles. Telephone line - 10 miles.
Insect control - acres not reported.
Fencing - 71 miles.

Ft. Yuma Agency

Men working - New project.

Projects: Poison plant control -
acres not reported.

Hayward School

Men working - See Lac du Flambeau.

Projects: Truck trail - 12 miles.
Telephone line - 7 miles.

Hoopa Valley Agency

Men working - 96.

Projects: Truck trail - 51 miles.
Telephone line - 15 miles. Horse and
man trails - 42 miles. Fencing - miles
not reported.

Hopi Agency

Men working - 450.

Projects: Truck trail - miles not
reported. Telephone line - 143 miles.
Erosion control - acres not reported.
Rodent control - acres not reported.
Tanks, wells, springs - 6. Reservoirs
- 4. Range stations - 2.

Jicarilla Apache Agency

Men working - 105

Projects: Truck trail - 14 miles.
Erosion control - 200,000 acres. Tanks,
wells, springs - 11. Forest and range
cabins - 4. Fencing - 3 miles. Res-
ervoirs - 11. Corrals - 4.

Jones Academy

Men working - 25

Projects: Forest improvement -
720 acres.

Keshena Agency

Men working - 97.

Projects: Blister rust control -
10,000 acres.

Kiowa Agency

Men working - New project.

Projects: Erosion control -
5,400 acres. Poison plant control -
acres not reported. Fencing - 5 miles.

Lac du Flambeau
(Includes Hayward School)

Men working - 145.

Projects: Truck trail - 50 miles.

Telephone line - 29 miles.

Leupp Agency

Men working - 370.

Projects: Truck trail - 104 miles.
Telephone line - 26 miles. Erosion
control - acres not reported. Rodent
control - 27,500 acres. Poison plant
control - 20,000 acres. Tanks, wells,
springs - 76. Fencing - 44 miles.
Reservoirs - 3.

Mescalero Agency

Men working - 200.

Projects: Truck trail - 149 $\frac{1}{2}$
miles. Telephone line - 134 miles.
Erosion control - acres not reported.
Rodent control - 9,500 acres. Tanks,
wells, springs - 37. Fire breaks -
25 miles. Stock driveways - 26 miles.
Horse and man trails - 33 miles. For-
est and range cabins - 1. Fencing -
145 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Ranger stations - 1.
Corrals - 5.

Mission Agency

Men working - 60.

Projects: Roadside clean-up -
acres not reported. Fire lookout
houses - 1. Erosion control - acres
not reported. Rodent control - acres
not reported. Poison plant control -
acres not reported. Tanks, wells,
springs - number not reported. Forest
improvement - acres not reported. Fire
breaks - miles not reported. Fire haz-
ard reduction - miles not reported.
Clearing campsites - acres not reported.
Fencing - miles not reported. Reser-
voirs - number not reported.

Northern Navajo Agency

Men working - 675.

Projects - Truck trail - 279 miles.
Telephone line - 123 miles. Erosion
control - acres not reported. Rodent
control - 25,000 acres. Tanks, wells,

springs - 125. Horse and man trails - 14 miles. Forest and range cabins - 6. Fencing - 45 miles. Reservoirs - 65. Posting stock driveways.

Neah Bay Agency

Men working - 90.

Projects: Truck trail - 17 miles. Fire hazard reduction - 2 miles. Institution of nursery.

Osage Agency

Men working - Project just starting.

Projects: Erosion control - acres not reported.

Paiute Agency

Men working - New project.

Projects: Fencing - 104 miles.

Pawnee Agency

Men working - New project.

Projects: Erosion control - 2,545 acres. Rodent control - 260 acres.

Pierre School

Men working - New project.

Projects: Erosion control - acres not reported.

Pine Ridge Agency

Men working - 220.

Projects: Truck trail - 166 miles. Telephone line - 180 miles. Rodent control - acres not reported. Dams - number not reported. Tanks, wells, springs - number not reported. Fire lookout houses - 1.

Pyramid Lake Sanitarium

Men working - 25.

Projects: Truck trail - miles not reported. Erosion control - acres not reported.

Red Lake Agency

Men working - 236

Projects: Truck trails - 85 miles. Telephone line - 55 miles. Fire breaks - 50 miles. Fire lookout houses - 2. Forest and range cabins - 2. Blister rust control - acres not reported. Nursery and seed collection.

Rocky Boy Agency

Men working - 59

Projects: Truck trail - 25 miles. Telephone line - 36 miles. Tanks, wells, springs - number not reported. Fire lookout houses - 1. Horse and man trails - $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Forest and range cabins - 2. Clearing campsites - acres not reported. Fencing - 14 miles. Corrals - number not reported. Commissaries - 1.

Rosebud Agency

Men working - 134.

Projects: Truck trail - miles not reported. Telephone line - 36 miles. Erosion control - acres not reported. Rodent control - 30,000 acres. Dams - number not reported. Tanks, wells, springs - 6. Fire breaks - miles not reported. Fire hazard reduction - miles not reported. Fencing - 60 miles.

Sae and Fox Sanitarium

Men working - 20

Projects: Erosion control - acres not reported. Rodent control - acres not reported. Forest stand improvement - acres not reported.

Sacramento Agency

Men working - 40.

Projects: Truck trail - 6 miles. Rodent control - acres not reported. Fire breaks - 3 miles. Horse and man trails - 30 miles. Fence - 5 miles.

San Carlos Agency

Men working - 410.

Projects: Truck trail - $63\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Telephone line - 50 miles. Fire look-
out houses - 3. Tanks, well, springs -
84. Horse and man trails - 41 miles.
Forest and range cabins - 3. Fencing -
157 miles. Corrals - 21. Salt sheds -
10.

Santa Fe Agency

Men working - 73.

Projects: Truck trail - 2 miles.
Erosion control - acres not reported.
Tanks, wells, springs - 3. Horse and
man trails - 20 miles. Fencing - 130
miles. Reservoirs - 3.

Scalls Agency

Men working - 515.

Projects: Truck trail - 208 miles.
Telephone line - 100 miles. Fire look-
out houses - 1. Dams - 20. Tanks,
wells, springs - 75. Horse and man
trails - 103 miles. Forest and range
cabins - 1. Fencing - 289 miles. Com-
missaries - 1.

San Xavier Agency

Men working - See Scalls.

Projects: Erosion control - acres
not reported. Tanks, wells, springs -
10. Fencing - 52 miles.

Saguoyah School

Men working - 41.

Projects: Erosion control - 454
acres.

Shawnee Agency

Men working - New project.

Projects: Erosion control - 1,120
acres.

Shoshone Agency

Men working - 220.

Projects: Truck trail - 136 miles.
Telephone line - 96 miles. Tanks,
wells, springs - 15 miles. Fencing -
8 miles. Ranger station - 1. Corrals -
4.

Southern Navajo

Men working - 1,540.

Projects: Truck trail - 147 miles.
Telephone line - 76 miles. Fire lookout
houses - 1. Erosion control - 64,000
acres. Rodent control - 175,000 acres.
Tanks, wells, springs - 120. Fire look-
out towers - 1. Reservoirs - 80.

Southern Pueblos

Men working - 140.

Projects: Truck trail - 18 miles.
Erosion control - acres not reported.
Tanks, wells, springs - 40. Fencing -
365 miles. Reservoirs - 56.

Standing Rock Agency

Men working - 320.

Projects: Truck trail - 21 miles.
Telephone line - 109 miles. Rodent con-
trol - 7,200 acres. Dams - 50. Tanks,
wells, springs - 7. Fire breaks - 15
miles.

Taholah Agency

Men working - 200

Projects: Truck trail - $38\frac{1}{2}$ miles.
Telephone line - 5 miles. Fire breaks
- 35 miles. Fire lookout towers - 1.
Fire hazard reduction - 24 miles. Horse
and man trails - 35 miles. Forest and
range cabins - 1. Clearing campsite -
acres not reported. Nursery and seed
collection.

Tongue River Agency

Men working - 137.

Projects: Truck trail - 135 miles. Telephone line - 22 miles. Fire lookout houses - 2. Rodent control - acres not reported. Poison plant control - acres not reported. Tanks, wells, springs - 200. Fire lookout towers - 2. Horse and man trails - 70 miles. Clearing campsite - 600 acres. Improved campsites - numbers not reported. Fencing - 226 miles. Corrals - 4. Insect control - acres not reported.

Truxton Canon Agency

Men working - 69.

Projects: Rodent control - 20,000 acres. Dams - 10. Fencing - 40 miles.

Tulalip Agency

Men working - 10.

Projects: Fire hazard reduction - miles not reported.

Turtle Mountain Agency

Men working - 30.

Projects: Rodent control - acres not reported.

Uintah Agency

Men working - 110.

Projects: Truck trail - 87 miles. Telephone line - 41 miles. Erosion control - acres not reported. Tanks, wells, springs - 55. Fire hazard reduction - miles not reported. Horse and man trails - 73 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Forest and range cabins - 2. Fencing - 34 miles. Reservoirs - 1.

Walker River Agency

Men working - 21.

Projects: Erosion control - acres

not reported. Rodent control - acres not reported.

Warm Springs Agency

Men working - 370.

Projects: Truck trail - miles not reported. Telephone lines - miles not reported. Fire trails - miles not reported. Fire hazard reduction - miles not reported. Horse and man trails - miles not reported. Fencing - miles not reported.

Western Navajo Agency

Men working - 502.

Projects: Truck trail - 74 miles. Rodent control - 180,000 acres. Fire trails - miles not reported. Horse and man trails - 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Fencing - 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Western Shoshone

Men working - 59.

Projects: Truck trail - 25 miles. Tanks, wells, springs - number not reported. Fencing - 85 miles.

Whitlock Academy

Men working - New project.

Projects: Erosion control - acres not reported. Poison plant control - acres not reported.

Yakima Agency

Men working - 474.

Projects: Truck trail - miles not reported. Telephone line - miles not reported. Tanks, wells, springs - number not reported. Fire trails - miles not reported. Horse and man trails - miles not reported. Bridges - number not reported. Fencing - miles not reported. Commissaries - 1.

Zuni Agency

Men working - 350.

Projects: Truck trail - 75 miles.
Telephone line - 15 miles. Erosion control - acres not reported. Rodent control -

80,000 acres. Tanks, wells, springs - 33. Horse and man trails - 16 miles. Forest and range cabins - 2. Improved campsites - number not reported. Fencing - miles not reported. Corrals - 7.

Since the above reports were compiled, the Office has received word of the enrollment of approximately one thousand additional men throughout the camps.

THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF HAYS CAMP, FT. BELKNAP

(The "Best Story" of the Past Two Weeks)

As has been stated to Superintendents in Circular Letter 42, it is the intention of the Office to publish in every issue of this bulletin a "best story" from the Indian Emergency Conservation camps. These stories may stress accomplishments, camp life, recreational programs, humorous or dramatic incidents - or may present any other sort of picture which appeals to camp authorities as suitable. They may be - and it is hoped that they will be - accompanied by pictures. The only rigid requirement in that they conform to the purpose of this bulletin - that is, that they deal with Indians at work on Emergency Conservation programs.

In this number there is published an account of the official opening of Hays Camp, Fort Belknap Agency, as the best story submitted. Close attention was also given to some of the other accounts of forest fire fighting, as these stories contain material of great interest. However, it was felt that they dealt only with an emergency outside regular conservation work, and so they were eliminated from consideration. In the following account from Camp Hays it will be seen how the Indians - for a day at least - made fire fighting part of their camp routine.

Although our Hays camp had been in operation a number of weeks, it was decided to have an official opening on

July 30, in the form of an open house, to which not only the relatives and parents of the boys in camp were to be

invited, but the white people from Harlem and the neighboring towns as well. Our thought in doing this was partly to provide entertainment, and partly to present clearly to the surrounding population just what the Indian Emergency Conservation Work means and what we have accomplished on this reservation.

The Indians here had early heard about the conservation camps which were being established by the Government for white boys, and when news of the proposed camp on this reservation was made public, they lost very little time in

joining the reforestation army. Throughout they have been keenly eager to compete with their white neighbors and proud of their model camp. Taking naturally to camp life, as they do, they were pleased when our camp took on its up-to-date, efficient aspect. The pride which they feel in their part in the conservation work was evident in their desire to have people attend the opening ceremonies, and the happiness with which they prepared for the event.

A Fire At An Inconvenient Moment

We let it be known that there were to be exhibitions of boxing for the amusement of the visitors and also two baseball games, to be played by teams composed of enrolled Indians. The indications were that we would have a large attendance - possibly a thousand people. We planned to serve a lunch of sandwiches and lemonade and to see that everyone had a chance to make an inspection tour of the whole camp. All the Indians were looking forward to the festivities with real pleasure.

Then something happened. July 30, as you may remember, was Sunday. Saturday at noon a report came in that smoke had been sighted in the forest in the vicinity of Beaver Creek Canyon at the extreme end of the Little Rockies. Smoke only means one thing in these woods. It was a forest fire.

Crews of reforestation workers promptly rushed to the scene and started fighting. Men went out from Hays Camp in trucks, carrying tools

and equipment. They fought splendidly and the blaze was well under control by seven o'clock that night. Then a wind of high velocity arose. Sparks were blown beyond the burned area and new fires began to break out. There could be no thought of quitting then, and there was none. Our boys stayed on the scene and fought that fire all night. In camp, Cook Rusch and his kitchen crew likewise stayed on the job, sending out lunches to the fire crews.

By Sunday morning the fire was under better control, but it was still dangerous. This was the day of the official camp opening. The boys had been up working all night. The kitchen crew had been up all night. The officers had been up all night too! And we were expecting perhaps a thousand visitors, all in holiday mood, anticipating boxing matches and ball games and lemonade and sandwiches. What were we to do?

A Plan That Saved the Day

It was still unsafe to leave the fire. The boys consulted quickly with the officers and we came to this conclusion. Since we could not be in two places at once, we would alternate between them. Some of the boys went back to camp to receive the visitors and others remained at the fire. Duly the guests arrived. There were Indians from Hays, Lodgepole and the Milk River districts, and white people from as far as Malta. Our expectations were correct. There were over a thousand. And they were in holiday mood.

Well, the boys took charge. They guided their friends and relatives and the white guests about the camp, showing it to them proudly. We have an ideal site. It is separated from townsite of Hays by a running mountain stream and bordered on the south and east by the Little Rocky Mountains. With its orderly rows of tents, its conveniently located mess hall, bath house and warehouse, its boxing arena set up in the center and the American flag floating

over it all, it caused a great deal of admiring comment from the visitors, both Indian and white. In spite of the stress of the previous day, everything was in perfect order, too.

At lunch there was a striking scene. The older Indians, dressed in their traditional blankets, were seated among the younger generation, in its modern dress, and the contrast could not but be noticed. Every one was happy. And - there was a lunch, you will observe. The cook served the thousand with sandwiches and lemonade, exactly as scheduled.

After that the hour for the ball games and boxing matches arrived. Members of both teams had been out on the fire lines from the start, but they had not forgotten their guests. They arrived at the camp by truck just in time, put on two fast games as scheduled, and then went back again to their fire fighting! Does it sound impossible? It was their own idea, remember. It was done by deliberate preference.

There Was No Hint Of Trouble

I do not think I have ever seen anything carried off better. There was no hint of trouble about the camp. The holiday atmosphere was unimpaired. The local papers, writing the event up, stressed the feeling of good humor and cheer which prevailed. But all the time the boys were alternating back and forth, some doing the duties of hosts, and others holding in check as nasty a blaze as we have had here in years. And the kitchen staff, although on duty from five in the morning on Saturday until late Sunday night, carried through without a single complaint.

I do not know what this argues, if it does not show that the Indians are making the reforestation work their own, so much so that they do not regard the work as a mere "job", but as something which belongs to them and which they want to have respected by everyone. For our part we are proud of our boys. And we think that our official opening had the good effect of acquainting the neighborhood with the Indian Emergency Conservation program in its most promising aspect. For when men carry on as these boys did, there can be no doubt that they have put their hearts into it.

FAMILY CAMP WORK IN ARIZONA AND MONTANA

One of the very important developments of the Indian Emergency Conservation program is the work which is being done among the families of the enrolled workers. Dr. Jay B. Nash is carrying the program forward along the Commissioner's well-defined ideals - that is, he is encouraging the Indians to improve their lives along the lines of their own culture and institutions, rather than blindly to copy from the whites.

That the Indians themselves welcome this instruction and respond to it generously is amply testified in the following article by workers enrolled in Dr. Nash's program. For the past month Dr. Nash has devoted his attention to building up a recreational and educational plan among the Indians of the Southwest, enlisting as his aides a number of returned Navajo girl students. Miss Emma Frazier, Washington, D. C., specialist in recreation and physical education is in charge of the work in the southwestern family camps, under Dr. Nash's direction. Assisting her is Miss Mabel Morrow, craft worker and home economist from the Santa Fe Indian School, loaned for this work. The Indian assistants are Mr. and Mrs. Koo McCabe, community leaders at Kin-la-Choo; Miss Mary Tsosi Begay and Miss Perry Begay, returned students from the Santa Fe School, and Mrs. Peter Wancka, expert Navajo weaver, Fort Defiance.

Family camp work, however, is by no means confined to the southwest. We are also publishing a report by Mrs. May L. Dull, assistant in charge of the recreational program at Bull Elk Camp at the Crow Reservation in Montana. Mrs. Dull also has her staff of Indian assistants - two talented young women, Miss Mylie Lawyer and Miss Jessie Jumping Eagle.

The Program in Arizona

Three white tents, two large tarpulins, a truck and a Ford sedan - these showed that the women workers for the Indian Emergency Conservation program were in the field. Out from Fort Defiance we started on our first field trip to the homes of the Indian workers, stopping as we went, tapping the "grape-

and grown men alike. The mothers and sisters came to sew while the tinies amused themselves with blocks and pictures. The men came too, and asked for games and races. Some older girls wanted to play basketball, some played school and some ran



Mrs. Peter Wancka explains the use of vegetable dyes to a group of Navajo women at Rough Rock, Arizona.

vine" all along the way to Rock Point where, in the yard of the trader, Mr. Christensen, we gathered an audience of fifty Indian women and their families - two hundred in all - for a two-day picnic, chataqua, minstrel, summer course or what-you-will.

Here we set up the first demonstration. Our camp, cooking and meals were an open house for anyone to inspect. The sewing machine and cutting table held the place of honor under one tarpulin, while the movable kindergarten or athletic supply room was the center of interest under the other - for children

races. So much for the sports!

The impressive thing about the whole trip was the great eagerness of every group for learning. At this place, Rock Point, the roads are mere trails. Mrs. Christensen told us that our two day visit was the greatest touch of civilization that had ever come to these people. Our attendance was by families, for it was Saturday and Sunday and the men were not working. Only those stayed behind who were needed to herd the sheep.

Neither the men nor the women hung back or needed to be coaxed. There was

a waiting line to use the sewing machine. Few knew how to operate it, but all wanted to try. The gatherer on that machine particularly fascinated these women, most of whom had brought dresses to work on, and we sewed all day Sunday.

We also started tanning goat skins. At Round Rock we found plenty of the best vegetable tanning material, canai-

plaining how the processes were to be carried out.

We made romper suits for children from one to five years of age and gave them to those who appeared needy. We also explained how these suits were made, putting one on a little boy and placing him in front of the crowd, using him as a model.



Workers on the Southern Navajo team preparing soap wood for basket material

gra or sour dock, called "chadini" by the Navajos. This is not used by the Navajos except for a medicine. However, it tans skins well, a light brown, and the use of it should be of real economic value to these people, for they have many skins for which they can get nothing. They take them to the trader and receive nothing but a stick of candy in return. Yet these skins make good winter clothing. Many of the Navajos, we found, were without warm garments for the coming winter, so we showed them how to make soft jackets and vests for the men and boys from the skins, cutting patterns and leaving them behind, ex-

We also gave some instruction in dyeing with vegetable dyes. We were surprised to find so many things in each district from which dyes could be made. The knowledge of vegetable dyeing has not been entirely forgotten by the Navajos, but it is not general. They have a wonderful knowledge of mordants. Incidentally, many traders are decidedly not in favor of vegetable dyes, and will not accept vegetable dye rugs or blankets. Some very good vegetable dye blankets are being made as a result of the conference in Santa Fe last spring. The colors are such that could be used in any home. Designs are

also good and truly Navajo. We carried some cochineal dye with us, and next trip we expect to have some in-

digo. One of the men said about this, "A white woman comes to tell us things everyone but the old men and women have forgotten".

Blanket and Rug Design

Another project on which we tried to help was blanket and rug design. We carried some large paintings of old blankets of good design and many photographs. These were hung on a pinon bush and the men and women studied them as long as they wished. We also

cut colored paper into strips, squares, triangles, diamonds, etc., and helped the women make blanket designs of them, putting them in place against sheets of neutral colored paper. These were hung on a tree, and judged for merit by three of the old men.

"We Will Try"

When we were leaving a woman came to us and said, through the interpreter, "Your time is not wasted here today. You have told us many things that we wanted to know. We are very grateful and will try to do these things."

At Chil-Chin-Bitoc we were about 180 miles from Gallup in real Indian country. There was not a sewing machine in the whole community, and the women were so anxious to learn about it that those who had no material to work on took off one of their many skirts and used it. The sand was so deep here that we had to keep digging it out from under the treadle so that the machine would run. Quite a few school girls came to us and asked us

to help them make dresses. The machine went from early morning until dark.

The men were so pleased with the little romper suits that they got down on their knees in the sand and helped cut out such garments of their children and grand children. The women had rather a hard time trying to learn to run the machine and in some cases the men took over the job.

The three returned school girls who assisted us on this trip were invaluable, and our work suggests a great possible outlet for the talents of such students. It will be an important part of this program to help train and guide Indian workers to carry on the work after we have gone. (Compiled from reports by Miss Frazier, Supervisor, Miss Morrow, Assistant, and Dr. Nash.)

A statement of the projects to be carried on under the Family Camp recreation program follows.

Subject 1. Recreation.

A.To train Navajo girls to guide and direct the leisure time activities.

B.Subject matter: archery, drawing and coloring pictures, jigsaw puzzles, magazines and picture story books, competitive games, story telling, toy making, relay races and simple ball games for the girls.

Subject 2. Rug and blanket weaving.

A.To train and inspire Navajo women and girls to direct other weavers in the best methods of cleaning wool, spinning, dyeing, designing, color combinations, weaving.

Subject 3. Tanning.

A.To utilize the goat hides and other pelts available on the reservation.

To suggest simple methods of tanning

To encourage those who know how to impart their knowledge to others.

To supply Indian women with patterns for making clothing for their families.

Subject 4. Silversmithing.

To encourage the renewed interest in designing for silver smithing by displaying photographs of the best old silver as produced by the Navajos.

Subject 5. To encourage the use of home products such as weaving bedding, making quilts and comforts from their own wool, preserving meats, vegetables, melons and greens.

Miscellaneous.

Carrying the sewing machine about and demonstrating the use of attachments and the making of children's clothes.

Family Camp Work in Montana

The Bull Elk Camp is well situated for obtaining game. Several deer were brought in and a few elk, the hides of which the women were carefully tanning. There is one native grass available, at the camp, for basket making. The native clay is of very good quality.

Thirty women and girls are working on reed and raffia baskets. The older women seem to appreciate the work of the younger women and particularly the girls. They offer encouragement and help them. They are rightfully interested in the beadwork they have and the

tanning.

The boys and some of the girls have done some drawing. Several of the boys were busy making sail boats to sail on the wading pond. One boy has a boat carved from a piece of a log which has helped to interest the other boys in perfecting better boats.

The children enjoy the games that are played. Many of the women congregated to watch the games, talking among themselves and doing beadwork. A volley ball court is being completed,

also, hoops for basket ball. Six individual jumping ropes and one long group jumping rope have been made from discarded tent ropes. The stories told the children prove to be most interesting to them.

Receipts for Quick Breads have been discussed and given to the women. Dress patterns have been cut for them to make dresses for themselves. Several children's garments have been made by the mothers by hand. Some of the women are piecing quilts.

The favorite sports of the men

after working hours are horseshoe pitching and arrow throwing.

The kitchen and dining tents, which include a well-made board floor, are completed. A social gathering occurred on the night of completion. A drum of green raw deer hide and an oil drum were improvised. Hand games were played. The owl, grass, rabbit dances and fox trot were danced. A lunch prepared by the women and camp cook was provided at eleven. (Report by Miss Dull, Assistant.)

A Navajo Dance in Honor of Assistant Commissioner Zimmerman

On the evening of August 13th the Navajos of the Fort Defiance conservation projects held a camp warming in honor of the completion of their two hundred man base camp, the largest Indian conservation camp in the United States.

Three hundred Navajos were present, including representatives from many of the other camps throughout the state. Guests of honor were Assistant Indian Commissioner William Zimmerman, Jr. and Dr. Jay B. Nash, Director of Indian Emergency Conservation Work and personal representative of Commissioner Collier in the field. A banquet prepared by the camp culinary staff and a program of Indian dances were features of the entertainment.

The camp is one of the finest examples of its type so far developed in conservation work. It has an exceptionally attractive site and has been most carefully planned as to comfort, hygiene and recreational possibilities. It was in gala array for the occasion, a huge fire blazing in the center of the recreation ground. After the din-

ner, which was served in the camp mess hall, the guests were addressed by Mr. Zimmerman, Dr. Nash and Mr. J. G. Hunter, Superintendent of the Southern Navajos, all of whom spoke through interpreters. The Indians responded through a talk by Chee Dodge, the tribal headman, who spoke in both English and Navajo.

Mr. Zimmerman in his address said to the Indians, "What you are doing is for yourselves. You are being paid to do it by the government but the success of the program lies with you." He also explained the purpose of the program, pointing out that erosion control, flood control and water development were all parts of a single program, which if continued over a period of years, would bestow great and lasting improvements on the lands. The tribal headman in his speech urged the Indians to get behind the program and push it ahead.

After the addresses the guests went out to the recreation ground and gathered round the campfire where they witnessed a program of Navajo dances. The enrolled men presented several num-

bers, after which a squaw dance was staged. Guests who were invited to dance in this latter were Mr. Zimmerman, Mr. Schroeder, camp manager and Mr. Dean, area supervisor; while as the

Santa Fe, New Mexican reported it, Dr. Nash was selected by the Indian women "to do an Indian version of the Virginia reel beside the blazing cedar fire".

REFORESTATION CREWS FIGHT FOREST FIRES

On August 8th the Office received the following telegram from Mr. L. E.

Baumgarten, Superintendent of Lac du Flambeau Agency, Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin.

"Swamp fire started Sunday afternoon ten sections burning on reservation equal amount adjoining reservation no timber damage yet fire only partially under control other large fires south and west of reservation all available men on fire duty recommend Office purchase portable pump and half mile hose for immediate delivery can fire pumps on supply list be sent immediately."

Promptly the Office wired back the authority to buy the pump. From then on for the period of about a week nothing more was heard from the Lake of the Flaming Torch. The Office was in darkness as to what was transpiring up there in the northern Wisconsin woods. Then, on August 15th, there came the following dramatic narrative report from Superintendent Baumgarten. It is quoted with pride and without comment. It speaks eloquently for itself.

"The first fire was reported from the temporary lookout on Sunday afternoon, August 6, at one o'clock. An emergency fire crew was being held on

duty at the Camp at the time, and the fire was reported by the observer to the telephone operator, who was serving as fire dispatcher that day.

The Crew Was on the Scene in Twenty Minutes

"The dispatcher ordered out the crew immediately. Within twenty minutes after the fire was sighted, the men were on the scene. A heavy southerly wind was blowing. The fire was in an open muskeg

swamp covered with a growth of blueberries, Labrador tea swamp grass, heavy moss. It was a hot day. The conditions were ideal for a bad fire if one broke out.

A Fire Front Thirty Miles Long

"When we arrived on the scene the fire had already jumped the railroad track. Within three hours our crews had been increased to eighty men and by Monday morning we had one hundred and fifty men. We worked all Sunday night. The weather continued dry Monday and Tuesday; high winds occurred and the fire burned beyond control, even with this large crew. However, since Wednesday very little area has been burned beyond that covered up to that day.

"On Thursday two showers occurred which gave the exhausted crews a breathing spell, and extinguished the fires in the grass and smaller brush. But the swamps are extremely dry and the peat, which is from one to five feet

deep, is still afire in thousands of places. Along the Powell Road this peat burned in almost a continuous strip for a half-mile. A pump was secured from the state and used on this area for parts of two days.

"The canal between Crooked and Swamp Lakes, some three-fourths of a mile in length, is one continuous bed of fire. When it is fanned, even by a slight breeze, fingers of flame run out over the area burned, giving off a very acrid smoke, in which it is almost impossible for fighters to work. These are only two of the many similar difficulties which could be cited on this fire front of over thirty miles in length.

The Fire Creeps Through the Lines

"On Sunday, August 13 over one hundred acres south of the canal mentioned were reburned. But only five acres outside of the original area were lost on that day.

"Our pump was received early Monday morning and all that day both pumps were used to control the blazes which originated from the bed of coals along this canal. Over half the area burned is outside the reservation, and the

state forces have plowed miles of fire line, using tractors, in some places turning over seven furrows 24 inches in width. Even so, last night we were informed by State Rangers that the flames had crept through this ploughed line in at least one place. At present the only area in which timber is being burned is islands within the main wake of the fire which escaped the first conflagration.

The Indians Saved the Trestle

"Some idea of the intensity of this fire can be gained from the following facts: On the east side of the Northwestern Railroad and across the track from the sweep of the fire, eighteen telegraph poles were either completely burned or so badly injured that it will be necessary to replace them, and in one case the cross arm was completely burned. Several dozen insulators were broken in pieces due to the extreme heat.

"On Sunday afternoon, the day the fire started, the flames were so intense that exposed ends of railroad ties were burned off in places. The wooden trestle was endangered but the local crew of Indian fire fighters saved it. The smoke and heat was so great that it was necessary for the south bound passenger train to stop and wait while the locomotive made a run through, to prove whether it was safe to let the train pass or not.

The Indian Crews Did The Bulk of the Work

"The bulk of the work was done by men of the Emergency Conservation crew and all available men at Lac du Flambeau were used. Those men worked long hours. Especially at the beginning of the fire we had crews working twenty-three hours at a stretch. Then those men were again thrown back into the fire line with only a very short rest and sleep. The members of our Emer-

gency Conservation Camp cannot be too highly complimented upon their willingness during this extreme emergency. With long hours and little sleep, their morale has been splendid.

"Our Indians finally became so exhausted that it was necessary to bring over the Hayward unit to relieve them.

The Cause - A White Smoker

"While this has not been definitely established, the fire was unquestionably

caused by a cigarette smoker among the white berry pickers.

Property Loss Is Small

"The actual property loss is small so far, due to the fact that the area burned has been confined largely to swamp. Where the fire ran on to high ground it was possible for the crews

to control it within a very short distance.

"We wish to assure the Office that everything possible will be done to control this fire."

From Red Lake, Tongue River, Warm Springs and the Blackfeet Reservations come still other accounts of fire fighting by I. E. C. crews. In every case the comment is the same - "they acquitted themselves well".

The extent to which these disasters have been occurring is obviously the best possible comment on the need for the fire protection measures which the E. C. program calls for.

Those Narrative Reports

Cedar Posts for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents at Northern Pueblos. At six of the Northern Pueblos, work has recently consisted in cutting cedar fence posts. By div-

iding the average number of posts cut by each man daily by the earnings of each man in a day, we find the posts are costing the Emergency Conservation funds

from 5 to 18 cents apiece. The difference in these figures is due to such matters as the abundance of cedar, the number of men engaged in the work, the distances that the posts have to be hauled and so forth. But the average figure of $11\frac{1}{2}$ cents is still smaller than the prices offered by outside

Fifteen Hundred Men at Southern Navajo: At this time we have men employed in Conservation Work as follows: reservoir - 1000 men; springs - 75; rodent control - 40; erosion control - 60; trails - 200; telephones - 10; erosion and fencing at Mexican Springs - 55; employed at Leupp and Zuni juris-



Dam 20 miles south of Chin Lee. Completed by Indian Crew under an Indian foreman. Southern Navajo.

companies in the vicinity or elsewhere. A record was recently established when we heard that one Tesuque Indian had cut 87 regulation cedar posts in one day. His salary being \$2.10, the average cost of these posts is less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents! George A. Perera, Assistant.

dictions - 100. Grand total - 1540.

We have also made arrangements to send 100 men to Fort Apache reservation. Fifty of these will report at Fort Apache August 13 and fifty more one week later.

At this time between fifteen and twenty fine reservoirs have been completed. A number of wells and spring developments are also completed and fifteen or twenty additional reservoirs will be finished within the next few days. Several miles of trails have been built and several miles of telephone line are practically finished. The rodent eradication groups have been making splendid progress and this is also true of the erosion control groups.

The erosion work being carried on at the Mexican Springs demonstration camp is progressing wonderfully well. The Indians are cooperating in the finest possible way, and are highly interested in the program for that district. The fencing of the area will soon be entirely finished. Quite a little of the erosion control work has also been completed. John G. Hunter, Superintendent.

A Profitable Project at Turtle Mountain. A drainage project has been started. This involves a series of sloughs which will give good hay meadows and also some land that may be placed under cultivation. The first project will drain approximately fifty acres. These projects are worked up with the approval of Mr. J.W. Welsh, Agency Extension Farmer. Adolph C. Thuring, Group Foreman.

A Ninety Per Cent Kill At Eastern Navajo. Our rodent control work has been going along nicely. Our kill, apparently, is about 90 per cent. Paul Russell, Camp Manager.

The Jicarilla Apaches Make Progress Along Several Lines. The prairie dog camps, the road camps and the fence camps are now operating with practically a full crew, and we believe that within the next ten days

or two weeks we will also have our reservoir camps with a full personnel.

The road outfits have covered areas of country over which roads have been needed for a long time, and we feel that we have made much progress along this line. The prairie dog outfit has covered about 15,000 acres, and as a result we have many less prairie dogs. The fence outfits are constructing fences on the boundary lines of the reservation which will aid very materially in eliminating trespassing of both sheep and cattle. We will soon have some results in water development lines. C.L.Graves, Superintendent.

Work - Not Play - At Tongue River. In spite of the fact that the month of July was one of continuous rodeos and dances, good headway was made in conservation work on the Tongue River Reservation. Work carried on from Crazy Head Springs Camp is composed mostly of trail building, fencing, brushing and the various jobs that go with the above mentioned work. Approximately 20 miles of trail has been completed, fence posts have been cut, fence lines located and some fence erected.

A very good job of prairie dog eradication was carried on by Group Foreman Eastgate. Eleven towns were completely eradicated before the season prevented effective work. Telephone work is also progressing nicely. W. R. Centerwall, Superintendent.

Fort Belknap Beautifies Wilson Park. This park area is a permanent campsite for all annual Boy Scout encampments for troops adjacent to Harlem as well as for various other organizations for young people, also a number of church organizations. The development being carried on by our Indian Emergency Conservation workers will aid in making Wilson Park one of

the most beautiful spots in northern Montana. James B. Ring, Camp Manager

A Road Opened to Traffic at Crow Agency. Have completed eight and one-half miles including the building of a bridge across Lodge Grass Creek and the installation of five cattle gates at fence intersections. This road is now open to traffic and is the main artery to the other conservation

Ten Thousand Acres Freed of Prairie Dogs at Southern Ute. About ten thousand acres have been successfully treated against the prairie dog type of rodent. Leisure time activities - baseball and reading. Discipline - excellent. Weekly Progress Report

A Reputation For the Cook at Hoopa Valley. Our camp has accommodations for one hundred men but we could re-



The Indian Crew which Completed the Dam Shown on Page 28.

activities. James H. Hyde, Superintendent.

A Number of Projects at Red Lake. Tower telephone line repaired and partly restrung, now in good order. Three loads of wood poles hauled into camp. Two hundred and four poles, skidways and roads, set in place by a crew of six men. S.S. Gurneau, Camp Manager

cruit up to one hundred and twenty without trouble. Production is going satisfactorily. Our first project, clearing and repairing our fifty-one miles of graded trails, has been completed. Thus far only one man has withdrawn from camp. We have made a reputation for good cooking. The boys are working hard. Leonard B. Radtke, Forest Supervisor

SNAP-SHOTS FROM THE CAMPS

At Tongue River They Stayed at Home. The Ashland family camp should be commended for its discipline and attention to duty. Instead of going to all the rodeos in the country, this camp of enrolled Indians consisting of approximately thirty families stayed at home and worked. They wisely realized that extra dollars next winter would go a long way.

A large swimming pool has been constructed below the camp. Recreation in the form of baseball, horseshoes, kitten ball, etc., is furnished the men during leisure hours. They all take a great deal of pride in their achievements. W.R.Centerwall, Supt.

A Bouquet For Lac du Flambeau. While they were fighting fire long hours at Lac du Flambeau, and might reasonably have been expected to be in a disorganized condition, Supervisor J. H. Mitchell paid them a visit. He reports what he found there as follows:

"It is gratifying to find at Flambeau such a satisfactory set-up, smooth-working, hard-hitting and happy.

4 "The camp here illustrates in both spirit and physical layout the ideas and ideals of the Commissioner. Every specification of the sanitary engineer has been carried out and approved; living conditions, including food, are of the best obtainable. Leisure time activities leave nothing to be desired and the morale of the enrolled men is excellent.

"I predict that no camp will make a better showing in production than Lac du Flambeau, providing that we have no more devastating forest fires

such as the one now in progress, taking all our men from their work for more than a week. I feel that it is one of the best camps in the United States and merits all the recognition it is destined to receive. 'It is a challenge to the district, to any district and to the Washington Conservation Officials.'"

Pay Day At Makah Agency. Pay day was on Monday evening. The checks were given to the boys after supper. The general feeling was good and is noted throughout the Indian village. A "Pay Your Debts" slogan was adopted, which resulted in many small sums being put into needy hands. In the evening the boys and many of their families enjoyed a beach picnic. Supper was provided and a huge bonfire built. Baseball is played nightly. Weekly Progress Reports

Thrift at Crow Creek and Lower Brule All enrolled men sign an agreement whereby approximately fifty per cent of their earnings shall be retained by the office for the purchasing of provisions next winter. Generally, the Indians agree that this is a commendable plan, they are sympathetic with the work; none have quit, all are anxious to do their part. Married men with families are employed for the most part.

Tom C. White, Engineer

An Impromptu Program From the Flathead Reservation. While at the Flathead Reservation it was my pleasure to participate in a delightful camp-fire gathering. Men from the boarding camps were hosts to the members of the family camps and nearly two hundred people gathered around the campfire, and listened to an impromptu program which was presented by volunteer talent.

Camp Superintendent Russell Kelley directed the proceedings in a really professional manner.

Claude C. Cornwall, Supervisor

The Extension Division Reports.

After an inspection trip through the reservations of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, Mr. A. C. Cooley, Director of Extension and Industry, writes about what he saw of Indian Emergency Conservation Work as follows:

"I visited a number of reforestation camps personally and was agreeably impressed with the fine way in which they are being managed and the response which is coming from the Indian people. You would be highly pleased, could you visit these camps and see the satisfactory manner in which they are being handled. From what I have heard of the white camps, I am sure ours are handled fully as well. Everything about them speaks well for our Indian people."

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THE PROGRESS OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Indians At Work was first planned as an Emergency Conservation News Sheet only. It was to be limited in its scope to the Emergency Conservation program. Since its institution, however, that plan has been changed, and it is now the intention of the office to include in each issue some account of the progress of Indian affairs in general. The items below deal with the pertinent developments in the Indian situation in the recent past.

Forbidding the Sale of Allotted Lands

To stop the melting away of Indian lands, Secretary Ickes has drafted a new order which forbids the sale of Indian allotted lands under any except extreme conditions. Through the allotment system, Indian lands have been cut from 133,000,000 acres in 1887 to 47,000,000 acres at present. Each year, additional hundreds of thousands of acres have been sold by the government or the Indians with little to show for the sale.

The new order, prohibiting future sales, only secures for the Indians a breathing spell. The allotment system must be made over from top to bottom.

Legislation will be introduced in the next Congress, and copies of the bills will be sent to all reservations.

Likewise, Congress and the Public Works Administration will be asked to make funds available for buying land for landless Indians. Some of these landless Indians have been disinherited through the allotment system. Others are the young people born since allotment who therefore possess no land. Others are tribes which once possessed abundant land, but saw it taken away by the government with no lands given to replace those lost.

Land, to the Indians, is life itself. To get a new land holding system for the allotted Indian and

more land or land of a more usable kind, is one of the chief hopes of the present Indian Bureau.

The New Forestry Policy

A new policy regarding Indian forests has been announced by Commissioner Collier and Secretary Ickes. This policy is to manage the Indian timber, wherever possible, through the Indian tribal organizations, or cooperative societies of Indians.

The 7,000,000 acres of Indian forests could permanently employ several thousand Indians, and they could be so operated as to insure perpetual renewal.

The new plan will require an education of Indians in the technical aspects of forestry. Some of this education is being gained right now through the Indian E.C.W. But it is only a commencement of what is hoped for.

Mr. Robert Marshall has been appointed Chief of the Indian Forestry Division. He succeeds Mr. J.P. Kinney, who is now one of the production supervisors of the Indian E.C.W. at Washington.

Indians Build School Plants

More than a hundred new day schools are among the projects in the first release of \$2,820,000 for public works in the Indian Service.

These are to be "community schools of the activity type", the Education Division states, for the use of all members of the community, adults as well as children. They are to be built with local material and Indian labor, "as part of the Indian community participation in the educational work".

Even the smallest schools are to have varied programs. "They are to be 'one teacher' rather than one room schools," the Education staff says - that is, there are to be, in addition to the main classroom, space for workshop, library, school lunch,

washing and laundering, and other needs that may develop for pupils and community. Plans contemplate sufficient land about the school (10 to 40 acres) to make possible gardens, athletic fields and other recreational opportunities. Teachers' quarters will be part of the school plant in most places.

The day schools in this first list will be in Montana, North Carolina, South Dakota, Mississippi, Washington, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arizona, North Dakota, Idaho, Oregon, Utah, California and Alaska.

In his note to Indian Service Superintendents, Commissioner Collier says, "There is a very definite obligation, legal and otherwise, that Indians receive first preference in any employment available."

New Employment Opportunities

Combined opportunity to Indians

for employment and advancement, both

within the Indian Service, is afforded by Commissioner Collier's plan to set up the new positions of Junior Hospital Nurse and Junior Home Economics teacher exclusively for Indians. Educated young Indian women with the professional training, who lack only the experience required by Civil Service, will be employed in the Indian Service while they are gaining the experience necessary to qualify them for Civil Service positions as full-fledged nurses and home economics teachers. Somewhat similar arrangements have been proposed for Indian high school graduates of commercial courses to qualify for Civil Service clerical positions. And in a short time it is expected that special training will be provided for Indian assistants in the field of extension

work.

A civil Service examination for reservation superintendents is soon to be announced. This is to be a regular competitive non-assembled examination, open to all who can meet the new requirements of demonstrated ability as administrators with a background of college education and successful experience in community organization and business management.

Examinations for physicians, nurses and social workers in the Indian Service are to be reopened probably within a month. These are not new examinations but a number of changes have been made to meet the general demand of the day for specialized training within these professions.

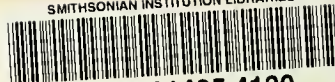
Indian Roads

The sum of \$4,000,000 of the monies appropriated in the National Industrial Recovery Act, approved June 16, was placed to the credit of the Indian Service for road expenditures on August 14. Authorities were immediately sent to 74 jurisdictions, to which allotments had been approved by Secretary Ickes.

In making these allotments the sums already allocated the reservations for E.C.W. and the amounts approved for buildings were taken into consideration. Reservations receiving none or only a small portion of these monies were given a larger allotment of road money. This benefits particularly reservations in Montana and the Dakotas where little relief work had been provided. None of this money may be used upon roads which have been

constructed from Federal and/or state funds. The projects which will be approved by the Office are those that will best serve the Indians, especially roads over which school busses will operate, and roads required for the protection and administration of Indian property. The money may be used for construction, repairing and maintenance, engineering and supervision, and for the purchase of materials and supplies and for the employment of Indian labor. In handling this road matter a new division has been set up in the Washington office. Engineers have been appointed for some thirty reservations. On other reservations, foremen-supervisors have been authorized and authority given for the employment of local engineers on a per diem basis for not over thirty days.

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